

THE GAZETTE.

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A NOVELIST'S DREAM.

The Strange Story of Guy de Maupassant's Malady.

The following is from a Paris letter from Mrs. Lucy H. Hooper, published in the Philadelphia Telegram. Paul Bourget, the most celebrated of the younger authors of France, since his masterpiece *Cosmopolis* brought him to the grade of commander in the ranks of French literature, takes up the cudgels in defense of Guy de Maupassant and avers that the narcotic habit, which was considered the cause of the great writer's insanity, was probably only an effect, and not its cause, and that De Maupassant saw and knew of his coming malady for years and watched the slow approach of his disease, hereditary insanity.

It is now a well-known fact that De Maupassant worked till the very last moment, and only attempted the episode which ended in his imprisonment in the insane asylum of Dr. Blanches for the rest of his days when he found he could write no more. So far back as 1884 he was already attacked by the strangest and most cruel form of nervous phenomena, imaginable. Bourget relates that in that year he went with Maupassant to the house of a mutual friend. They found this gentleman very much agitated by the dream he had had, and which was so wild as to act as a veritable nightmare.

He had seen in his dream one of his literary friends, Leon C., in the agonies of death, and his death, and all the details of his demise, and the discussion as to who was to take the vacant place on the press, and the various regulations of his funeral with such startling exactitude that when he awoke he could not shake off the impression which haunted him. He told the dream to Maupassant, who was startled for a moment, and then asked: "Do you know how he is?" "No, is he ill?" said the other. "He is dying! Did you not know it?" "I knew nothing about it." "We were greatly alarmed," continued Bourget, "by this strange presentiment, which was fulfilled a few days later. But Maupassant speedily recovered from his astonishment. 'There must be an explanation,' quoth he. So, on investigation, they discovered that this gentleman had received a letter from Leon two weeks before. Maupassant pointed out that the handwriting was shaky.

"It is the handwriting of an invalid he insisted. 'You noticed the fact mechanically, and hence the origin of your dream. You see there is nothing that can not be explained away, if one only tries.' And as the other continued to be doubtful, he added:

"What would you do if you had to endure what I endured? Half the time when I go home I see my double. I open the door and I see myself seated in my chair. I know it to be a hallucination even while I see it. Is it not curious, and if one had not a little sense, how alarmed one would be?"

"How often," pursued Bourget, "I have seen him as he was then, when evidently the malady that was to lay him low was beginning its work. That duel with insanity was the mysterious dream of his ten last years. What he must have suffered is seen by his later portraits and the ravages which marked that countenance, once so joyously energetic and frank. That the author should have persisted in his work and grown in greatness while enduring such martyrdom proves how passionately he loved his work."

The Moon as a Better Ball.

All English-speaking people refer to the moon as "she" and the sun as "he"; in Hindoo mythology, however, the "goddess of night" is a male deity, supposed to be the son of the patriarch Ardi, a young man who was transferred to the realms of space because he was too good to associate with other human beings. The Malays, Siamese and several classes and castes of the Chinese, speak of the moon as the great milk curd or butter ball which arose from the primordial sea of milk when it was churned by the gods to procure the much-prized "beverage of immortality."

Feminine Interest.

Sidestreet—Mary, get dressed for the theater. I have two tickets for the matinee this afternoon—one of the best plays of this season.

Mrs. Sidestreet—Theater? With a wedding from No. 49 at 2 o'clock and now people going to move into No. 45 at 4 o'clock. Well, I guess not!

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

HAPPENINGS OF GENERAL INTEREST TO ALL.

A Comprehensive Epitome of Serious and Sensational Settings Carefully Condensed from All the Leading Dailies for the Past Week.

A number of Christian ladies of Guthrie, Okla., are raising a fund to enable John Dorsett, who is under sentence to be hanged January 8, to appeal his case to the supreme court. Dorsett, who is a young man, was sentenced for the murder of Sherman Long on January 4 last because of his supposed jealousy of the attentions to Clementine Dmoya, an Osage Indian girl.

While Jacob Miller and wife were on their way to church at St. Paul, Minn., recently, they were met by two masked men who commanded them to hold up their hands. Miller grappled with one, and in the struggle a pistol was discharged, the ball passing through Miller's hand. Mrs. Miller's cries brought several men to the rescue and the men escaped.

Two little boys, sons of ex-Mayor John C. Bone of Batesville, Ark., were frightfully burned recently. They were playing near a boarding car on the railroad. The porter took a scuffle of hot ashes and cinders and, not knowing that any person was near, threw them out of the car window. The entire contents fell on the heads and faces of the boys.

The dead bodies of Walter Shannon and Mrs. Ann Davis, both colored, were found dead in bed one morning recently at the home of the latter in the suburbs of Bristol, Tenn. Matt Davis, the husband of Mrs. Davis, has been arrested for the double murder but he denies knowing anything about it. Each body had a bullet hole in the head.

At Guthrie, Okla., recently, Moses Weinberger commenced suit against Coyle & Smith for \$300 damages for the death of his horse from eating castor beans in oats purchased from the defendants. One judgment of \$350 has already been rendered against the firm in a similar case.

The Colorado Fuel and Iron company has made a contract with the receiver of the Union Pacific road for the delivery of about 30,000 tons of steel rails. This will give employment to about 1500 men at the company's works at Pueblo, Colo.

Chancellor McGill a few days ago, at Jersey City, ordered the National Cordage company sold to the United States Cordage company for \$5,000,000, the sum bid. The total debt of the National company was shown to be \$12,750,000.

The banking firm of Joseph Steiner & Son, also Steiner Bros. & Co. and J. M. Steiner & Co., doing business at Greenville, Ala., made a general assignment recently. Liabilities \$150,000; assets valued at about \$75,000.

Pete Nolan, a puglist, lost a part of each ear in a pistol and fist encounter at Cincinnati, O., recently, with Charles Davis, a circus follower. It is not known whether Nolan's ears were shot off or bitten off.

At Farmington, N. M., the girls boycotted all the boys who did not sign the muster roll of the home guards organized to keep out marauding Indians. Now all the boys belong to military.

The World's fair board of awards has struck a balance on the awards made, disclosing the fact that foreign exhibitors will secure 63 per cent of the prizes and American exhibitors 37 per cent.

Thomas Barnett, a footpad, was shot and killed a few nights since at Kansas City, Mo., by Jacob Warner. He had shot a young man named Burton and was robbing him when Warner killed him.

Indian commissioner Browning appeared before the house committee on Indian affairs a few days since and submitted estimates for the next fiscal year. The estimates amount to \$6,981,000.

A few days ago at Denver, Colo., Ed Handfield shot his sweetheart, Miss Ida Hall, twice and then shot himself through the head, dying instantly. Miss Hall died two days later.

Near Montrose, Colo., recently, Mr. John Wilson let loose seven dozen quail, and people are requested not to injure or kill them, but to let them multiply in the neighboring valleys.

A dispatch from Breslavorok, Russian Poland, says that an old bank has failed there, with liabilities at 460,000 roubles. The bank referred to has many foreign creditors.

A. J. Nichols, general superintendent of the Little Rock, Mississippi and Northern railway, was struck by an engine and instantly killed at Pine Bluff, Ark., recently.

The Galesburg, Ill., Paving Brick company's plant was destroyed by fire a few days since. Loss, \$200,000; insured. There is suspicion that the fire was incendiary.

Jack Stokes, colored, living near Texarkana, Ark., got drunk, went home, set his house on fire and was burned up. His wife had left him and refused to return.

The Rand Drill works, the Silver Shoe factory and the Smith Pottery works of Tarrytown, N. Y., have resumed work on full time and with a full force of men.

At Burbanks, S. D., recently, while sleighing Misses Dolly Hemphill and Kate Stephens were shot and instantly killed by their escort, "Shorty" Babcock.

Noah Tehill was fined \$75 at Decatur, Ill., recently, for signaling answers to his wife while she was on the witness stand.

The committee on banking and currency of the national house are equally divided on the 10 per cent state bank tax.

Down at Quetzaro, Mex., recently, \$30,000 was bet on one cock fight. The Mexican has the courage of his convictions.

Recently near Brighton, Iowa, Mrs. David Adler pushed her husband into a well forty feet deep and then stoned and shot him.

The dispensary law of South Carolina has been declared unconstitutional by the supreme court of the United States.

A boy 12 years old was tried at Chattanooga, Tenn., for the murder of a playmate several years older and acquitted.

The proposition by the Olyphant, Ark., train robbers, still at large, to compromise with the state has been rejected.

It is said that nearly every drugist in Maine, which is a prohibition state, is under indictment for selling liquor.

The multitude of Boston (Mass.) unemployed recently held a tremendous mass meeting and made demands for work.

The Union Pacific coal mine at Evanston, Neb., is on fire and there is little hope of extinguishing the flames.

Collectors of customs and internal revenue have received instructions from Washington to register Chinese.

Count Von Bulow has been appointed to succeed Count Solmo-Sonnenwalde as German ambassador to Italy.

A woman got drunk at Denver, Colo., some time since and a crowd of toughs ducked her in a horse-trough.

Sigmund Masakowski, a Russian refugee, committed suicide in Lincoln park, Chicago, a few nights since.

All contested cases for seats in the house of representatives have been postponed until January 4, 1894.

The Keaysage has been ordered from New York to San Domingo to protect American interests.

The Lehigh Valley Railroad company's loss by the recent strike will reach nearly \$4,000,000.

An American young girl in Paris, France, has received the degree of Doctor of Mathematics.

New York statistics show that 6836 pensioners died in that city last year for lack of proper food.

Thieves recently ransacked St. Andrew's cathedral at Little Rock and stole valuable articles.

The Missouri river is said to be so low at Jefferson City that the catfish have got the hay fever.

South Carolina is making \$10,000 a month as a result of state control of the liquor business.

The Hammond distillery at Valparaiso, Ind., burned recently, causing a loss of \$200,000.

Denver, Colo., people have sixty-seven different church houses or places of worship.

The farmer in Japan who has more than ten acres of land is looked upon as a monopolist.

In Idaho the Republicans and Democrats are considering a proposition to consolidate.

The Illinois Bookkeepers' association has just closed a convention at Springfield.

The railways of Minnesota paid dividends last year amounting to \$10,000,000.

The princess of Formosa suicided recently at Rome, Italy, by shooting herself.

Baltimore, Md., leads the world on the fruit canning industry and on oysters.

At Saratoga, Wyo., recently, hot water was struck in a well eighty feet deep.

The telephone wires of Omaha, Neb., have been placed underground.

New Orleans is already talking about the Mardi Gras carnival of 1894.

Eight thousand people are destitute in the upper Michigan peninsula.

The Denver, Colo., divorce mill grinds with great rapidity.

One-seventh of the land owners of Great Britain are women.

Cheyenne, Wyo., has organized a chamber of commerce.

Gold is again being carted out to foreign shores.

LITTLE FOR IT TO DO.

TERRITORY COMMITTEE PRACTICALLY DEFUNCT.

Hundreds of Congressmen Have Gone Home, and Those Who Did Not Go Are Angling for Offices for Friends—Not Acting Upon Stamp Contract.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—When the New Mexico and Oklahoma bills are passed by congress the committee on territories of both houses will be practically defunct. If a bill is presented for the admission of the Indian territory it will, no doubt, come before the committee on territories, but as a usual thing all matters in reference to the Indians of that section would naturally be considered by the committee on Indian affairs. There will be more or less business for the committee on territories to consider with reference to Alaska, as it is believed that Alaska will not be admitted for many years. So far there have been no Alaska proposition considered by the committee, but it is said that as soon as the present territorial bills are through the house that the matter of a delegate to represent Alaska in the house of representatives may be taken up. A similar proposition regarding the Indian territory will also be introduced. It is somewhat doubtful whether the Oklahoma bill will be pushed through ahead of the tariff bill, although its friends will make an effort in that direction so as to clear the house of all territorial bills.

A Back Salary Grab.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—The house went into committee of the whole for the further consideration of the urgency deficiency bill. Some very exciting scenes were enacted before it was finally passed. The item appropriating \$200,000 for special claimants was amended so as to prevent the suspension of any pension without giving the pensioner notice with opportunity to furnish testimony in rebuttal. Amendments were also adopted appropriating \$180,000 for extra mileage for members and senators, \$46,000 for stationery and about \$25,000 to pay employees of the house and senate an extra month's pay. The most bitter opposition existed to each of these propositions, the first of which was denominated on the floor a proceeding whose scandalous character had not been approached since the days of the infamous back salary grab. Bland and Holman led the fight against these propositions with a view of placing the members on record with aye and nay vote, but they were not numerically strong enough. During the debate Mr. Wilson of the ways and means committee, rose informally to receive the bill and report. After this the deficiency bill was again considered, but no further amendments were adopted. The committee rose, reported the bill and pending amendments to the house. The row was then resumed. A separate vote was demanded on the mileage and extra month's pay clauses. Bland explained that all he wanted was a record-making vote, but the house would not agree and Bland went on making filibustering motions. Meantime the speaker retired from the chair and the rules committee held a meeting. A special order was prepared invoking the gag. It was immediately reported and adopted. The mileage and extra month's pay amendments were adopted.

San Marcos Wins.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—The fresh fish commission has at last prepared itself to answer the question in regard to the establishment of a hatchery at San Marcos, Texas. For a long time there was some trouble about getting such a title as the government wanted to the water, but now it is settled satisfactorily and one of the officers will proceed to San Marcos early in January and prepare to build the ponds.

Gone Home.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—The congressmen living within 300 or 400 miles of Washington have gone home for the holidays, and as a consequence nothing is being done. Those who remain are "working" the departments for offices. There will be no appointments made requiring confirmation of the senate till after the holidays, and in fact the cabinet will take a recess.

Not Acted Upon.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Of the 400 nominations sent to the senate by the president during the time the senate has been in regular session 135 were not acted upon when the senate took a recess for the Christmas holidays.

Stamp Contract.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—The question of awarding the contract for printing postage stamps to the bureau of engraving and printing, or to outside bidders, will be determined within a few days.

A Minority Report.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—The report of the minority of the members of the

ways and means committee on the tariff bill was submitted to the house yesterday. The report begins by saying the most surprising thing about the bill is the fact that this proposition to raise revenue will lower the revenue \$74,000,000 below the revenue of 1893, which was only \$2,000,000 above expenses. This fact and the other fact that by this bill the large part of the burden of taxation is transferred from foreigners and brought to our own citizens should always be kept in mind during the discussion. It then goes on to say that the majority has not given a tariff for revenue only bill and therefore the measure is not a manly attempt to carry out pledges. After some space devoted to argument upon the basis of the party platform, the report gives as an instance of inconsistency that boards planed, tongued and grooved, saying that although lumber passes in the same plant from saws to planers, the work of men who manage saws are unprotected while the work of men who run planers are shielded by the protective tariff taxes. The plan, the report says, also involves a new method of encouraging manufacturers by giving them "free raw materials," so what goes into the mills pays no taxes and what goes into consumption pays all the taxes. Then, too, wool, coal and iron are not put on the free list with any reference direct or indirect to raising revenue, but to encourage manufacturers who will be thus compensated for any loss from the struggle with the cheaper labor of the old world. All the objections so often urged by the dominant party against the existing system, the report repeats lie against this bill. The difference is only one of degree. If, as asserted, 70,000,000 American people have been taxed for the benefit of a few hundred thousand favored individuals, why should the taxation be continued even in a diminished rate. This bill pretends to be a revenue tariff and does not raise revenue. It pretends to give protection, but destroys it in every way.

Hawaii vs. Taft.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Mr. Taft of the ways and means committee, has announced that on the first day of the session after the recess he will move to take up the tariff bill, and that the discussion will commence and be continued on it till it is disposed of. The announcement is further made that there will be no morning hours, these being devoted to general legislation, and that nothing of any character will be allowed to interfere with the consideration of his measure. It is thought from this that the revenue bill will be merged into the customs bill, as he only spoke of one bill. The view of those close to him is that he intended to whop the measure through by the first week in February. However, it must be remembered that the calculation of the ways and means committee were not at all unerring in the past, as it promised the country at one time that their measure would pass the house by the holidays, and at another time that it would be under discussion at least by that time. Neither of the promises have come to pass. Another thing standing in the way of the probability of the present promise of the committee being made good is that the committee on foreign relations is determined to have their Hawaiian resolution disposed of immediately after congress meets in January. If Wilson will not yield then there will be a test of strength between those who want to discuss the Hawaiian matter. The Republicans and the administration favoring the latter, Mr. Wilson will without doubt have to yield.

Wants to Issue Bonds.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—The annual report of Secretary Carlisle was sent to congress yesterday. The secretary says that during the first five months of the present fiscal year expenditures exceeded receipts \$28,918,955.66. There has been not only a decrease of receipts, but also an increase of expenditures. The result of these changes was that on the first day of December the actual net balance in the treasury, deducting the bank note redemption fund, outstanding debts, etc., discharging officers' balances, agency accounts and gold reserve was only \$11,024,418.25. The secretary asked that he be empowered to execute as may be necessary obligations of the government not exceeding in the aggregate of \$50,000,000, bearing a rate of interest not greater than 3 per cent and payable after a year from date, and that he be permitted to sell them at not less than par or use them at not less than par in payment of public expenses to such creditors as may be willing to receive them.

A Tie Vote.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—The banking and currency committee of the house voted yesterday on the bill to unconditionally repeal the 10 per cent tax on state banks. The vote was a tie.

Van Allen's Successor.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—The post den has nominated Wayne A. Kemp of Pennsylvania a successor to Van Allen as attorney general under the Garfield administration.